

What is claimed is:

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5 1. A network management system comprising a plurality of network devices operating in a coordinated manner and a management server managing said plurality of network devices, said management server ^{comprising} ~~including~~.

means for generating interrelated setup information to be used for said plurality of network devices on which settings are to be made, said setup information being generated to maintain consistency; and

means for confirming consistency of interrelated setup information set up in said plurality of network devices.

2. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein said management server ^{further} comprises:

means for retrieving meta-level setup information from said interrelated setup information; and

means for retrieving interrelated setup information set up in said plurality of network devices.

3. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein said interrelated setup information includes tunneling setup information.

4. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein:
said network device is a firewall; and

said setup information includes setup information related to access control for said firewall.

5. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein:
said network device is a server; and
said setup information includes an access privilege policy of said server.

6. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein:
said network device is a computer executing a network application periodically exchanging data; and
said setup information includes setup information related to said network application.

7. A network management system according to claim 1 wherein:
a firewall is disposed between said management server and said network device;
said management server includes means for distributing routing means^{for} routing settings from setup information for said firewall; and
said distributed routing means includes means for setting up said setup information in said network device.

8. A network management system according to claim 7 wherein said management server and said routing means include means for performing mutual authentication and means for encrypting data.

9. A unified firewall management system used for a network in which firewalls are disposed between administrative units in said network wherein:
a management server is disposed to set up management information for said firewalls;

said management server includes a manager program that sets up management information to firewalls on the other side of other firewalls.

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